SPIRIT OF THE PRESS.

Editorial Opinions of the Leading Journals upon Current Topics-Compiled Every Day for the Evening Telegraph.

RUMORS OF A CHANGE IN THE CABI-NET AND RETIREMENT OF MR. BOUTWELL

From the N. Y. Herald. A rumor comes again from Washington that Secretary Boutwell will soon retire from the Treasury Department. His successor, it is said, will be Senator Morton, of Indiana. The reason assigned for Mr. Boutwell's retirement is that the President regards the financial policy of the Secretary as unpopular and damaging to the administration. Whether the old saying, that where there is much smoke there must be some fire, be applicable or not to the rumors about Mr. Boutwell going out of the Treasury, there can be no doubt that the reason assigned for his retirement is a good one. He has been a weakness and a drag to the administration all along; he has done nothing to make it popular, and had it not been for the superabundant resources of the country and the enormous revenue, which have kept the Treasury on a high tide of pros-

perity, and enabled the Government to pay off a large amount of debt, public opinion would have set strongly against him long since. The people have borne heavy taxation with patience, and have lost sight in a measure of Mr. Boutwell's incapacity because they felt some gratification at seeing the debt greatly reduced. But the credit of hoving a vast income is not due to the Secretary; that comes from the enormous wealth, resources, and industry of the country. But there are two sides to this question of

raising a vast surplus revenue and paying off the debt so rapidly; and Mr. Boutwell has been on the wrong side, as far as any action he has taken in the matter goes. What the country most needed after the bulk of the floating war debt was paid or adjusted was a reduction of taxation -a removal of its burdens-and a limited income only for economical current expenditures and a small sinking fund. That would have stimulated industry and enterprise, improved the condition of the people and increased trade and commerce. The money unnecessarily extracted from the pockets of the people to keep the Treasury gorged would, if left with them, have created more wealth, have placed the country in a better condition to pay the debt hereafter, and have checked extravagance and corruption. The Secretary did not or would not see this. He had but one idea, and that was to keep the Treasury full-to keep on hand all the time from a hundred to a hundred and fifty millions of dollars, and to pay off the debt at the rate of a hundred millions a year, in order that he might make political capital. Then, at the bottom of this extravagant and burdensome financial policy, there has always been another one which springs from Mr. Boutwell's New "and protective education and notions. He has been conscious that the larger the revenue exacted from the people the more protection would necessarily be afforded to the New England manufacturers. In taxing articles of general consumption to raise a vast revenue the home manufacturers are protected, and the higher price they get in consequence from the consumers is as much a of the Treasury or transferred directly from the pockets of the people to the manufacturers. Here, then, was a double motive for the Secretary to oppose the reduction of taxation and to keep up an enormous surplus revenue-to promote his own political aspirations and to serve his New England friends.

Mr. Boutwell has overreached himself and damaged both the administration and his party. We should not be surprised, therefore, if General Grant is waking up to this fact and should desire a change in his Cabinet. The divisions in the Republican party on various grounds are embarrassing the administration, but none are likely to prove more disastrous to it than the difference that exists between the Eastern and Western Republicans on revenue and tariff issues. The revenue reformers, who are for the most part a fragment of the Republican party, are numerous in the West, and have no interest in common with the New England protectionists. As an agricultural people those of the West naturally incline more to free-trade. Many of them, it is true, are from the Eastern States, but while their radical and old home affiliations may remain to some extent, they are governed chiefly, as all other people, by their material interest. As a consequence, the breach that is already apparent between the old Republicans of the East and the West must widen as time advances on revenue and tariff issues. It is certain, too, that the mighty West will soon overrule the New England protective policy which has controlled the Government for some time past. Then the interests of the South and West, both being agricultural, will be combined before long against the protectionist section.

self, then, from the control of New England politicians, modifies his policy to suit the West and leans more upon that section for support, the better it will be for him. The people are weary with the burden of taxation. They bore it patiently and nobly as long as the life of the nation was in question or its credit required to be sustained. But the war and war issues being settled and the credit of the Government firmly established, they demand a large reduction of taxes, a much less revenue, and economy. They cannot see the justice of keeping up taxation for the protection and benefit of a small section or a limited class. Besides it is well known that a plethoric Treasury is always a temptation to extravagance and leads to corruption. If it be true that Senator Morton is spoken of as successor to Mr. Boutwell in the Treasury Department, there may be a change in the financial policy of the administration, and one more likely to suit the Western people, he being from the West and more imbued with the views of that section. The administration and Republican party cannot run the Government machine longer upon New England principles and for New England without imminent danger of disruption and defeat.

The sooner General Grant emancipates him-

There is another good reason why Mr. Boutwell should retire from the Treasury Department. He has shown ignorance of the simplest principles of national finance and During the whole of his term of economy. office he has lost to the Government and people fully six millions of dollars a year in noarding a capital of over a hundred millions instead of putting it out at interest, or, what amounts to the same thing, instead of buying up the interest-bearing debt with There never has been any reason fear the surplus money in the Treasury would be wanted. Had the Treasury been emptied any time during the last

or two after a surplus again, so fast and con-

nue. No business man of the most ordinary capacity would have been guilty of such folly in the management of his funds. No one would have locked up his money when he could have drawn good interest from it. The pretext that a large reserve of gold was necessary to keep down the promium is fallarents of trade would have had a better effect. Mr. Boutwell is a failure as a financial minister, and if General Grant would consolidate the Republicans of all sections, and save the West from going over to the Damocrats, the sooner he invites the Secretary to retire the better, both for himself and his

SHALL WE HAVE A TARIFF COM-MITTEE?

From the N. Y. World. Whatever opinion may be entertained concerning the first of the resolutions recently offered in the House of Representatives by our active and zealous member from the Sixth New York Congressional district, providing that the annual taxation shall not exceed \$250,000,000—including \$125,000,000 for principal and interest of the public debt; however questionable it may be that even in the present reconstructed House a majority vote can be obtained for the second resolution pledging the country to a purely revenue tariff, in opposition to a tariff for the protection of class interests at the general expense; however much the country may be divided on these two, there is no doubt that the third of these resolutions is received with a general approval bordering on unanimity. Even the ibune, little disposed as it generally is to do justice to a free trader, frankly and freely tenders Mr. Cox its thanks for his attempt to secure for the contemplated tariff revision a careful and statesmaplike consideration.

The third of these resolutions is to this effect:-Resolved, That in case this session adjourns without the appointment of the Committee of Ways and Means, a special committee of seven be appointed to consider and report upon the reform of our revenue, and such bill or bills embodying a revenue tariff on the foregoing principles as will best carry the same into practical effect; and in case such Con mittee of Ways and Means be appointed at this session, that then the said committee shall perform the duties required in this resolution;

-and embodies, only conditionally, it is true, a proposition of a reform which has suggested itself before now to many thinking men. This proposition is none other than to remove all consideration of the tariff from the Ways and Means Committee, and transfer it to a committee specially devoted to that subject and none other.

The enormous labor now devolving on the Ways and Means Committee is sufficient to appall the heart of the stoutest, if he have the conscientious desire to do his duty. The late chairman, Mr. Schenck, has left on record a pathetic description of the fearful persecution from hundreds of tariff axe-grinders to which he submitted daily during each discussion of a tariff revision. The strongest man in the House could not do justice at one and the same time to the manifol d problems of internal revenue, of the management of the debt, the general supervision of Treasury business, and the tariff besides; and, unfortunately, the present committee consists, with one or two notable exceptions, of the veriest incapables. The Ways and Means Committee -the most important committee in the House -is notoriously always overburdened with work in an active session, and consequently the most important work of Congress is gene- and all kinds of Millinery Goods. bonus as if the money were paid directly out | rally the most poorly done. On this ground alone a division of the work of this committee seems eminently desirable. But there is another ground which makes this division

almost imperative. If there is one thing upon which almost all tariff reformers, and indeed all honest men, are agreed, it is that all evidence on the tariff should be heard in open session of the committee, and made public. It is absolutely necessary that some such measure should be adopted in order that the general public may know upon what facts and arguments the action of the committee is based, and in order that interested parties may have the amplest opportunity to meet and refute all statements affecting their interests. As the work of the committee is managed now, important interests are sacrificed without the parties affected having the remotest hint that their interests are under discussion, or what arguments have been used to influence the action of the committee. When the report of the committee is made to the House it is next to impossible, without direct political influence, or unless the matter is of very general importance, to secure a reconsideration. As matters are now managed, the most useful class of witnesses that such a committee could have, men of character and reputation, professionals and experts in their special spheres, are unwilling to appear, fearing to be classed with the corrupt and shameless lobbyists who haunt committee-rooms for their own selfish ends. But publicity,

the committee might readily benefit by the advice and special knowledge of these men, if they were protected against unjust suspicion by thorough publicity. And too, would save the committee from the appearance of many who have heretofore been their chief advisers, but who would not dare testify as they have done if they knew that their facts, and arguments would be before the whole country before they themselves could leave Washington. Members not on the Ways and Means Committee would certainly hail this publicity of the tariff discussion as a special boon, for it would relieve them from the worst, most annoying, and least satisfactory duty which they now have to perform-that of urging upon the attention of members of the committee the claims of their constituents, of whose merits they are, in ninety-nine cases out of a hundred, either totally ignorant

or incapable of judging. If it is true-and we think it can scarcely be doubted-that publicity of the tariff discussion in committee is almost essential, it must be evident that this forms a very strong additional argument in favor of a seaprate committee; for, with the exception of the tariff, the work of the Ways and Means Committee is peculiarly unfitted for premature publication, and the objections to partial or irregular publicity will suggest themselves readily enough to whoever will take the trou-

ble to consider them. There need not, as might at first blush seem likely, be any conflict between this new tariff committee and the Ways and Means Committee; for if the House will fix the amount of revenue that it requires to be derived from the tariff the new committee can adjust such a tariff, without any interference with other sources of revenue except in the case of wines and spirits and tobacco; and any difference arising out of the duties on these articles as interfering with the internal revenue tax upon them can easily be overcome by a conference, or, if irreconcilable, can be settled by the House. The more closely the subject is examined the more clearly will it appear that Mr. Cox's suggesfew years, there would have been a month tion of an independent tariff committee is eminently wise and judicious, the more

s'ant has been the stream of incoming reve- | strongly will good men of all parties desire | to see it put in practice.

THE KU-KLUX DEBATE. From the N. Y. Tribune.

No other section has half the interest in suppressing the dastardly midnight outrages which disturb and disgrace the South that the South herself has. She needs peace and rest; she needs order and security; she needs capital and population-all which these crimes destroy or repel. Not one-fourth of ber seres are under cultivation; not a hundredth part of her water-power is utilized; her annual product of minerals is not a thousandth of what it might and should be. An influx of two or three millions of intelligent, energetic, efficient miners and manufacturers would double the average value of her real estate and reduce by one-half the burden of her taxation. Yet those whose deeds of arson, maining, and murder preclude any considerable influx of capital or industry vaunt themselves "Southern men," and even "the Southern people," in contradistinction frem "carpet-baggers," "scalawags," and 'niggers.'

The Democratic party has multitudes of outside counsellors who urge it to remember that Democracy ought to mean devotion to equal rights, but especially to the imperilled rights of the ignorant, the humble, the powerless. Its leaders are exhorted to consider that they might secure a considerable segment of the colored vote, even yet, by evincing humanity and common sense. "All you need," persist these well-meaning counsellors, "is to be Democrats, as you have always professed to be, and you have the country in your hands

Such importunity is vain. The Democratic party of to-day is simply the Rebellion seeking to achieve its essential purposes within and through the Union. A victory which does not enable it to put its feet on the necks of the black race seems to the bulk of its adherents not worth having. Its heart is just where it was when it regarded slavery and the Constitution as two names for one thing. It hates the generals who led the Union armies to victory, and rarely misses a chauce to disparage them. It clings to that exaggerated notion of State rights which makes them the shield of all manner of wrongs and abuses. It takes counsel of its hates even more than of its aspirations, and will be satisfied with no triumph that does not result in the expulsion of all active, earnest Republicans from the South.

We rejoice that the condition of the South has been discussed in both houses of Congress, because the public mind is thereby impressed with the attitude of the two parties in that section. "Let us have peace," still the prayer of the Republicans. "Let outrage and murder continue till we shall have driven the blacks from the polls and chosen President and Congress," is the countercry. If nothing more than this shall result from it, this session of Congress will have accomplished great good.

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CITY ORDINANCES.

R ESOLUTION
Of Thanks to the Volunteer Fire Depart-

Whereas, The Volunteer Fire Department of the city of Philadelphia has ceased to exist, and "Paid Fire Department" has been substituted in its place by the proper authorities of the city, and went into active operation on Wednesday the 15th of March, 1871:-

And whereas, The city of Philadelphia, almost from its foundation, had no other protec tion from the ravages of fire than that afforded by the Volunteer Firemen, who were ever conspicnous in their efforts to extinguish conflagra tions, and on repeated occasions have saved the city from perils of the most appalling character; and it would seem to be no less an act of justice than of gratitude that an institution to which our citizens owe so much should not be permitted to expire without some public recog-

nition of its services; therefore, be it Resolved, By the Select and Common Councils of the city of Philadelphia, That the thanks of the city be and they are hereby tendered to all the Eugine, Hose, and Hook-and-Ladder Companies composing the Fire Department previous to and at the time of the passage of the ordinance establishing a Paid Fire Department, for their long and faithful services in the protection of the city and suburbs from the ravages of fire-services not to be forgotten by the citizens, and which will ever remain a lasting memorial of their self-sacrificing, noble and devoted exertions in the cause of hu-

manity.

Resolved, That a copy of this preamble and resolution, suitably engrossed, signed by the Presidents of the two chambers, and attested respectively by the Clerks, shall be framed and hung up in the Hall of Independence

HENRY HUHN, President of Common Council.

Attest-JOHN ECKSTEIN, Clerk of Common Council. SAMUEL W. CATTELL, President of Select Council.

Approved this twenty-second day of March, Anno Domini one thousand eight hundred and seventy-one (A. D. 1871).

DANIEL M. FOX,
Mayor of Philadelphia.

R ESOLUTION
Of Thanks to Robert Johnston, Esq., Representative in the General Assembly. cils of the city of Philadelphia, That to Robert Johnston, Esq., a representative in the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, the thanks of the city of Philadelphia are due, and are hereby tendered, for his prompt, earnest, and effective efforts in arresting the attempted enactment of the so-called Philadelphia Commission bills pending before

the General Assembly. Resolved. That the Clerks of Councils be and they hereby are directed to prepare and trans-mit to the said representative an attested copy

of this resolution. HENRY HUHN. President of Common Council.

Attest-JOHN ECKSTEIN, Clerk of Common Council,

SAMUEL W. CATTELL. President of Select Council. Approved this twenty-second day of March Anno Domini one thousand eight hundred and

Anno Domini one thomas seventy-one (A. D. 1871).

DANIEL M. FOX Mayor of Philadelphia.

COMMON COUNCIL OF PHILADELPHIA. CLERK'S OFFICE, PHILADELPHIA, March 17, 1871. In accordance with a Resolution adopted by the Common Council of the city of Philadelphia on Thursday, the sixteenth day of March, 1871, the annexed bill, entitled, "An ordinance the annexed bill, entitled, creating a loan for the extension of the

Water Works," is hereby published for public

JOHN ECKSTEIN, Clerk of Common Council.

AN ORDINANCE CREATING A LOAN FOR THE EXTENSION OF THE WATER

information.

WOPKS. Section 1. The Select and Common Councils of the city of Philadelphia do ordain, That the Mayor of Philadelphia be and he is hereby authorized to borrow at not less than par, on the credit of the city, two million one hundred and twenty-two thousand dollars for the further extension of the Water Works. For which interest not to exceed the rate of six per cent. annum, shall be paid half-yearly, on the first days of January and July, at the office of the City Treasurer. The principal of said loan shall be payable

and paid at the expiration of thirty years from the date of the same, and not before without the consent of the holders thereof; and the certificates therefor, in the usual form of the certificates of city loan, shall be issued in such amounts as the lenders may require, but not for any fractional part of one hundred dollars, or, required, in amounts of five hundred or one thousand dollars; and it shall pressed in said certificates that the loan therein mentioned and the interest thereof are payable free from all taxes.

Section 2. Whenever any loan made by virtue thereof, there shall be by force of this ordinance annually appropriated out of the income of the rate estates, and from the sum raised taxation, a sum sufficient to pay the interest on said certificates; and the further sum of threetenths of one per centum on the par value of such certificates so issued shall be appropriated quarterly out of said income and taxes to a sinking fund, which fund and its accumulations are hereby especially pledged for the redemp-tion and payment of said certificates.

RESOLUTION TO PUBLISH A LOAN BILL. Resolved, That the Clerk of Common Council be authorized to publish in two daily news-papers of this city daily for four weeks the ordinance presented to Common Council on Thursday, March 16, 1871, entitled "An ordinance creating a 'oan for the extension of the Water Works." And the said Cerk, at the stated meeting of Councils after said publication, shall precent to this Council one of each of sald newspapers for every day in which the same shall have been made.

CITY ORDINANCES. A N ORDINANCE
To Anthorize the Construction of Sewers on Cherry street, and on Fifth street.
Section 1. The Select and Common Councils of the city of Philadelphia do ordain, That the Department of Highways be and is hereby authorized to construct the following sewers, viz.: On the line of Cherry street from Tenth street to a point ninety-four feet east of Eleventh street, and on Fifth street from Wager street to a point seventy-five feet northward from the said Wager street, each with a diameter of three said Wager street, each with a diameter of three feet; said sewers to be built of brick, circular in shape, and in accordance with specifications prepared by the Chief Engineer and Surveyor. Section 2. The Chief Commissioner of Highways shall advertise according to law, announcing that bids will be received for the sewers above designated, and he shall allot them to the lowest bidders, and it shall be a condition of said contract that the contractor shall accept the sums assessed upon and charged to the pro-perties lying on the lines of the sewers, in manner and form authorized by ordinance entitled "An Ordinance regulating the assessmen upon property for the construction of branch culverts and drains," approved May 12, 1866

and supplement thereto, approved February 16 1869; any excess over and above said assessmen to be charged to item (for branch sewers) of annual appropriations made to the Department of Highways for the year 1871. Provided, Said excess shall not in any case be more than can be charged to said item under ordinance entitled "An Ordinance authorizing the Chief Commissioner of Highways to draw warrants for street intersections, manholes, and legal deductions in the construction of branch sewers,

approved April 3, 1868. HENRY HUHN, President of Common Council.

Attest-JOHN ECESTEIN, Clerk of Common Council. SAMUEL W. CATTELL, President of Select Council

Approved this twenty-second day of March, Anno Domini one thousand eight hundred and Anno Domini one thousand seventy-one (A. D. 1871).

DANIEL M. FOX.

Mayor of Philadelphia. NORDINANCE To Regulate the Sale of Meats along the Curbstone Markets, Against any House, or in any Alley-way within the Limits of the City of

Philadelphia. Section 1. The Select and Common Councils of the City of Philadelphia do ordain, That on and after the first day of April, A. D. 1871, no meats shall be offered for sale along the curbstone markets, against any house or in any alley-way within the limits of the city of Philadelphia, in a less quantity than a quarter of the animal so offered, under a penalty of five dol-lars for each and every offense, said penalty to be recovered in like manner as debts are now by law recoverable, before any Alderman of the city of Philadelphia. All ordinances or parts of ordinances inconsistent herewith be and the same are hereby repealed.

HENRY HUHN, President of Common Connell

Attest-JOHN ECKSTEIN, Clerk of Common Council. SAMUEL W. CATTELL, President of Select Council Approved this twenty-second day of March, Anno Domini one thousand eight hundred and

Anno Domini one thouses seventy-one (A. D. 1871).

DANIEL M. FOX, Mayor of Philadelphia

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